



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

14 NOV 2005

Wayne Gieselman, Director
Environmental Protection Division
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace Building
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Gieselman:

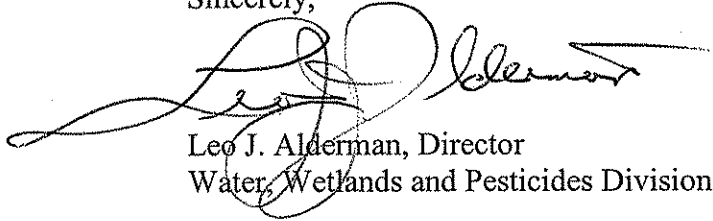
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the Iowa Clean Water Act, Section 303(d) list of water quality-limited segments still requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), submitted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) on June 3, 2005. In its submittal, IDNR included Iowa's final 2004 Clean Water Act, Section 303(d) impaired waters list, the full Integrated Report for 2004, IDNR's 2004 listing methodology, a public participation responsiveness summary, copies of all public comments received, and a response to EPA comments and questions provided during IDNR's public comment period from February 21, 2005, through April 15, 2005. In addition, IDNR staff transmitted Iowa's priority ranking of listed waters to EPA in a June 29, 2005, email.

IDNR's submission is formatted consistent with EPA guidance regarding "integrated reporting" and, therefore, contains five separate categories of listed waters. There are 216 waterbody segments within Category 5 of Iowa's integrated report which constitutes Iowa's list of water quality-limited segments still requiring TMDLs subject to EPA approval. Based on its review, EPA has determined that IDNR's list of water quality-limited segments still requiring TMDLs partially meets the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and EPA's implementing regulations. EPA is, therefore, partially approving and partially disapproving Iowa's 2004 Clean Water Act, Section 303(d) list. EPA disapproves IDNR's decision not to list 20 waterbodies and associated pollutants. Specifically, EPA is disapproving the removal by IDNR of six waterbodies or pollutants from the State's list and is restoring those to the State's list. EPA is also adding 14 waterbodies and any associated pollutants to Iowa's list of impaired waters. EPA will open a public comment period to receive comments concerning the decision to add these waterbodies and pollutants to the State's list. The list of the 20 waterbodies which EPA is adding to the 2004 Iowa list, as well as the rationale supporting this action, is included as an enclosure to this letter.

I congratulate you and your staff for the completion of the list development and submission process. This process requires a significant amount of staff resources and involves a complex evaluation and assessment of water quality data. We look forward to working with IDNR on the development of the 2006 Section 303(d) list.

If you would like to further discuss EPA's action, please contact me at 913-551-7001, or John DeLashmit, Chief of the Water Quality Management Branch at 913-551-7821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo J. Alderman", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Leo J. Alderman, Director
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division

Enclosures